

THE MEDINA SENTINEL

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MAKING GOOD



Your Chance Mr. Taxpayer

Mr. Taxpayer, a golden opportunity is yours. What you never have enjoyed before was a chance to criticize BEFORE the tax budget of the county is passed upon. You always have had full swing for protest afterward, when it could avail you naught, but now a wise and beneficent administration has vouchsafed you the means of registering your dissatisfaction in advance—that you may lock the barn before the horse is stolen. The time to do your kicking on county expenses is BEFORE, not AFTER, and here is the opportunity.

Meetings will be held as ordered by the State Tax Commission and Auditor Garver will see to it that all have a hearing who desire in a PUBLIC MEETING. If you thing too much is being spent by the county officials for this or that, it is your duty, as well as your privilege, to go to the meetings, or never how about your tax rate again.

Notice of time and place of these meetings has been arranged by Auditor Garver and appears in another column of this issue of the Sentinel.

The following is the order from the State Tax Commission to the auditors of the several counties of Ohio:

The tax commission of Ohio pursuant to the authority in it vested by section 54 of the act of May 10, 1913, 103 O. L. 800, therein denominated sections 562-7 general code of Ohio, hereby issues to the budget commissions in the state the following instructions.

In adjusting the various amounts to be raised in the several taxing districts in the county, so that the total amount thereof shall not exceed in any such district the amount authorized to be levied therein, and for the purpose of eliminating errors and unnecessary items from the budgets of taxing districts, wherein the aggregate does not exceed the amount authorized to be levied therein, the budget commission shall proceed in the following manner:

Public meetings shall be held in each taxing district at centrally located school houses or other public buildings which are available without expense. The county auditor shall cause reasonable notice thereof to be published in such a manner as he may deem best, with a view of giving the taxpayers of the several districts an opportunity to attend such meetings. At least one member of the budget commission shall attend each meeting, and the taxing authorities of the district shall be notified to attend. The Commissioner or commissioners in attendance shall acquaint the taxpayers present with the various amounts requested by the taxing authorities entitled to levy within such district for their needs for the incoming year, together with the amount levied for the same purpose for the previous year, the estimated balance on hand at the beginning of the incoming year, the estimated value of taxable property in

the district, and the probable increase or decrease in the aggregate rate by reason of the increase or decrease in the estimates or budgets submitted by the taxing authorities.

An opportunity shall be afforded to any person present to be heard in support or objection of any item in any budget affecting the taxing district, and the taxing authorities of the district shall like wise be heard thereon at their own request. In taxing districts the aggregate of whose budgets does not exceed the amount authorized to be levied therein, if errors or unnecessary items are disclosed the commissioner or commissioners present shall require correct estimates or budgets to be filed with the commission by the taxing authority which filed the original estimate or budget containing erroneous or unnecessary items.

The budget commissioners shall also hold a public meeting at the county seat, upon notice given to the taxpayers of the county generally by county auditor in the manner hereinbefore prescribed, at which a hearing shall be had as hereinbefore provided with respect to the several items in the county budget.

Insofar as practicable, the meetings of the budget commission, at which the amounts to be levied are finally fixed, shall be open to the public, but no hearing shall be held thereat.

Compliance with this order will be enacted under sanction of the proceedings referred to in section 56 of the act above cited.

Very respectfully
THE TAX COMMISSION OF OHIO
By A. V. Abernethy, Secretary.

It will be observed from the notice of meetings prepared by Auditor Garver that they are not in accordance with the order from the State Tax Commission. In explanation of this Auditor Garver states that to hold separate meetings for each taxing district would entail too much time, and further that the other two members of the budget commission, Mayor Boyer and W. G. Bowman of Wadsworth, claim that they could not carry out the mandate of the State Commission without personal financial loss. Following a meeting of the county budget commission on Monday at Wadsworth at which this matter was discussed, they communicated by telephone with Mr. Peckinbaugh of the State Tax Commission at Columbus and asked permission to hold meetings as outlined in the notice which appears elsewhere in this paper. Mr. Peckinbaugh, it is stated, reluctantly gave permission, but insisted that the meetings for the taxing districts of Wadsworth village and township be held in Wadsworth.

While there can be no doubt that the directions given out by the State Commission are by far the better means for getting the subject to the people, nevertheless, the plan adopted by the budget commission, if taken full advantage of, will be fraught with good and tangible results.

Aside from publishing the notice of the meetings in the various newspapers

Road Contract in Abeyance

Some weeks ago the road commissioners advertised a sale of bonds for the purpose of rebuilding or fixing up four strips of road about a mile each, to-wit: the Wadsworth road, the Wadsworth road, the Wadsworth road, and the Wadsworth road. The bonds were sold to Seasongood & Mayer of Cincinnati.

Wednesday of this week the road commissioners met to let the contract for the work to a local contracting firm. Before they could do, this however, Seasongood & Mayer sent word that there appeared to their counsel to be a doubt as to the bond sale having been advertised the legal length of time. Thereupon the letting of the contract was deferred. Later the Cincinnati firm refused to buy the bonds.

It has come to the Sentinel several times the past week that the road commissioners had decided to let the contract for the building of these roads on specifications other than what had been drawn up by the engineer and subsequently advertised. In other words that the advertised specifications called for an asphalt road, whereas it had been decided to let the contract for a water-bound macadam road, a change of specifications without advertising it and without giving any firms other than the two first bidders a chance to bid on it.

Thursday evening in conversation with Mr. C. H. Edwards, the Sentinel gleaned the following statement:

There were two bids received for the building of these roads—one by the Kennedy-Warner Co., of Medina and the other by a firm from Mansfield. The engineer's estimate for the asphalt road was from about \$5100 or \$5200 to \$5900 per mile. The bids were much higher than the engineer's estimate. It was then, according to Mr. Edwards, that the road commissioners requested that these same two bidders furnish estimates for the cheaper, or water-bound macadam road. The Kennedy-Warner company did so, but the Mansfield company would not do so, giving as their reason that they did not care to have anything to do with any kind of a road less than asphalt. The Kennedy-Warner Co., offered to build the roads for \$1000 a mile less than their bid for the asphalt road.

Of course, on account of the bonds not having been sold, the contract has not been let. But it is admitted that had the bonds been accepted Wednesday, the local company would have received the contract for the water-bound macadam road, whereas the specifications called for asphalt.

The Sentinel withholds comment in this matter for the time being other than expressing its belief that the road commissioners erred and more-over were without the law when they decided to change specifications without advertising the fact. To us it was an act that could hardly bring to them else than censure, if not involve them in expensive litigation.

(continued bottom column 5)

K. of P. Outing Big Success

Everything dovetailed to make the K. of P. picnic at Chippewa Lake yesterday one big success. Last year the attendance was 8000, and it has been freely predicted that that number would likely be swelled to nearly if not quite double that figure at the picnic this year.

From early morning yesterday each car from either direction brought in big loads of visitors to the grounds. Delegations from Wooster, Ashland, Mansfield, Loudenville, Shreve, Orrville, Apple Creek, Doylestown, Sterling, Smithville, Wadsworth, Spencer, Lodi, Seville, Berea and Medina were there in goodly representation, and the Wooster, Orrville, Ashland, Medina and Shreve bands discoursed music throughout the day. The Wadsworth and Smithville male quartets were important features and elicited favorable comment and loud applause.

At 10:30 the races began as follows:

Ladies Wheelbarrow Race, 1 prize \$1, 2 prize 50c.
Boys' Shoe Race, 1 prize \$1, 2 prize 50c.
Ladies' Ball Throwing Contest, 1 prize \$1, 2 prize 50c.
Fat man's Race 200 lbs. and over, 1 prize \$2.
Ladies' Race, any age, 1 prize \$1, 2 prize 50c.
Onion Eating Contest, 1 prize \$1, 2 prize 50c.
Tug-of-War, 10-Man Team at 2:30 p. m., eastern time.
Eight Guard Drill Contest and the Pythian Sister Drill Contest at 8:30 p. m., eastern time.
Twelve Guard Drill Contest at 8:30 eastern time.
Band Concert on the Lake at 9 p. m., eastern time.

At noon it was estimated that there were upward of 3500 people on the grounds and every car that arrived was filled with eager Pythians and friends. A conservative estimate given out at the close of the day placed the number who entered the grounds during the day and evening at close to 10,000.

The day was calm, cool and inviting and many availed themselves of a refreshing dip in the lake. Disciples of Terpsichore whirled around the dance hall with dervish glee, while others sought gladness in the merry-go-round. Coco cola and white pop made the youthful heart leap high with pride as his digestive organs received a corresponding setback. There was a little of everything taking place and withal it was a great place to be.

The K. of P. Pythians are to be congratulated upon the success of their annual outing, and too great praise cannot be given to the various committees upon whose exertions largely depended the success, and the persistent and careful work of Publicity Manager Britton of the Wooster Daily News, who knows just how to promote a proposition to get the crowds.

Pathetic Wail From Poor House

In our issue of May 22, under the caption "Over the Hills," we reported the removal of Mrs. Elizabeth Emig to the county infirmary after the refusal of her only son and daughter-in-law to live with and take care of her.

An echo of this pitiful case resounded Tuesday of this week when Mr. C. M. Cannon, an old friend of the unfortunate woman, received a letter from her laden with pent-up grief and heart-rending appeal to be liberated and taken home. The poor old soul wails of homesickness. She writes that her eyesight is nearly gone and that she yearns for the solace of the place in which the best of her long life was spent and to taste again the cooking which with childish pleasure she boasts of her ability to do.

Mrs. Emig was a life-long resident of Guilford township and the widow of Michael Emig, who died some years ago. The latter was a successful farmer and with the assistance of his faithful helpmate became the owner of a farm of 80 odd acres. When Michael Emig died he left the farm to his son, with the provision that until her death the widow should have possession and have the use of the place for her support.

The daughter-in-law, it is reported, refused absolutely to have anything to do with her, and demanded that the son assume a like course. Thereupon a guardian was appointed—Mr. A. B. Rohrer of River Styx, and the aged and deserted old woman was hustled over the hills to the poor house.

In her cry to Mr. Cannon, Mrs. Emig denounced her son in no uncertain language.

Berea vs. Medina Races Tomorrow

Tomorrow, August 1, the driving club of Berea comes to Medina to race with the Medina county matinee driving club. Fifteen horses have been entered by the visiting club and they will be quartered at the track this evening to be ready for the contest tomorrow afternoon. The local club will have an equal number of horses in the several classes and an effort will be made to classify all the horses according to their past records.

There will be six different events with not less than four starters in any class, which guarantees a full afternoon's recreation for those who love the light harness sport. The races will be governed by the matinee rules for racing, and while no purses will be hung up, the rivalry between the clubs and the satisfaction of driving under the wire first, insure spirited contests and hair-raising finishes in every heat.

For weeks the owners have been looking forward to this event and have had their horses specially trained and groomed for what they consider one of the greatest meetings of the season.

A good orchestra will be in attendance which will entertain the crowd between heats with excellent music. The races will begin promptly at 1:30 eastern time, and all events will be mile heats, best two in three.

CHAUTAUQUA PARADE

From the Redpath Chautauqua offices of Columbus, F. R. Speck arrived in the city Monday with a new line of advertising for the seven-day program which is to begin here Aug. 5. Mr. Speck is known as the "nine-day man" and will remain here until the arrival of Mr. Resler, the Chautauqua superintendent, and the tent crew, two days before the opening.

Pennant streamers, additional souvenir programs, automobile pennants, Chautauqua hats and window pennants are among the unique forms of Chautauqua advertising introduced by the advance man. Already hundreds of gay colored pennants hang from lines across the main business streets and almost every home in town displays in favor of the Chautauqua pennants in the front windows.

On Monday evening, Mrs. B. Hewes called a meeting of the ladies of the Medina Improvement Association and the Chautauqua guarantors. Mr. Speck was present and outlined a whirlwind campaign of ticket selling. It was decided that a program should be placed in every home in the surrounding county and that every one should be solicited to purchase a season ticket. Ten automobile owners volunteered to take the ones selling tickets about the county.

An automobile parade is to be the big advertising feature of the week. Dr. H. S. Orr was made chairman of the parade committee. He and his helpers will ask the automobile owners to join in making the parade a huge success. All machines will be gayly decorated in Chautauqua pennants and banners and the occupants will be given nifty green and red hats to wear. The parade will form on the square at 6 o'clock Saturday evening, escorted by the K. of P. band.

The season tickets are selling well. A large clock in the window of N. O. Fuller's store indicates the number of tickets sold each day. Every one is urged to aid the local committee by purchasing tickets as early as possible.

FAMILY REUNIONS

The seventh annual reunion of the Friedt family will be held at the Medina fair grounds on Saturday, Aug. 15.

The third annual reunion of the Nichols family will be held at the home of LeRoy Nichols at Creston on Saturday, August 29.

The annual reunion of the Westheffer-Wenger families will be held at the Rittman park, Rittman, on Saturday, August 1.

The tenth annual reunion of the descendants of John Wilson will be held at the home of Tom Wilson at River Styx, Saturday, Aug. 8.

The Birbeck relationship will hold their annual reunion at the home of John Birbeck, Sr., two and one-half miles northwest of Wadsworth on Saturday, Aug. 1.

The fourth annual reunion of the Baum relatives will be held at the home of Mrs. J. P. Heckman, Creston, Saturday, August 8.

The third annual reunion of the Caughey family will be held Wednesday, Aug. 12, at the Fred Eastman home, south of LeRoy, electric car stop No. 8, west end.

ROAD CONTRACT IN ABEYANCE

(continued from column 3)

bound macadam road, whereas the specifications called for asphalt.

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Akron Also For Better Service

The fight begun by the people of Medina county to force the Northern Ohio R. R. Co., to provide better passenger and freight service to Akron, by petitioning the public utilities commission at Columbus, Friday, will be taken up by the Akron Chamber of Commerce, according to a statement made by its president, Fred M. Harpham.

Medina county is normally within Akron's shopping district and is a big prosperous district which has been held back because of poor connection with outside cities.

Its present railroad connection east consists of one train leaving Akron in the morning and returning there at night. This means that a Medina county man wishing to transact business in Akron must leave on the night train, and either complete his business before the return train pulls out in the morning or stall all day and another night, leaving the following morning.

If a Medina man wanted to dispose of honey from the famous A. I. Root co. apertures here, he could leave Medina Monday afternoon, stay over night, spend all day and all night Tuesday in Akron, reaching home Wednesday around noon. His hotel and expenses would in this way eat up most of the profits of his visit, and the result is to discourage any business between Medina county, a great producing center, and Akron which forms a splendid market.

Whether the Northern Ohio road will give better service to Medina is doubtful. Several times in the past four years petitions have been sent to the railroad asking for more trains but the company figured it will not pay them, it is said.

Although Medina Citizens have been asking for better service for the past three years, this is the first time that formal complaint has been made before the public utilities commission.

Akron Chamber of Commerce will stand behind the Medina board of trade in its fight for better service, according to Harpham, and will use what influence it has to bring about better conditions.

The Akron Chamber will take up the matter with the public utilities commission in the near future.

UNDERWOOD—LAWRENCE

A late issue of the Elyria papers this week brought the news to Medina of the marriage of Miss Nettie E. Lawrence of Oberlin to Mr. Aldrich B. Underwood of Medina. The ceremony was performed at Oberlin at 2:30 o'clock Wednesday afternoon by Rev. Wagar of that place. The bride is a graduate of Grace Hospital, Conneaut, and has stood at the forefront of her profession in Elyria, Cleveland, and Oberlin institutions, at which latter hospital she rose to the position of superintendent. The groom is a member of the Ohio Bar, is a graduate of Oberlin College, holding the A. B. degree, has studied law three years at Harvard and Western Reserve Universities, and is a graduate of the latter institution, holding therefrom the L. L. B. degree. On behalf of their many friends, the Sentinel takes pleasure in welcoming these young people to Medina, where they expect to make their home, and where Mr. Underwood is to be a democratic candidate for prosecuting attorney.

COMMISSIONERS LET BIDS

Bids were let by the county commissioners Wednesday to the following contractors with the respective amounts, and the names of the various bridges:

W. H. Schampf, Geo. Lewis bridge, Chatham, \$923.70; same, Henry Garman culvert, Harrisville, \$156.50; same, Simmons culvert, Westfield, \$521.63.

C. W. Daniels & Son, Barnhart culvert, Westfield, \$338.45; same, Coon Creek culvert, Spencer, \$373.30.

Henry Young & Son Collier culvert, between Montville and Sharon on the town line, \$413.50.

P. Banks & Son, S. N. Rice culvert, Litchfield, \$172.23; same, J. H. Barth culvert, Litchfield, \$474.30; same, Allen culvert, Litchfield, \$141.32.

Einhart and Levette, Harrington bridge sub-structure, Brunswick, \$372.15; same, Harrington bridge super-structure, \$138.18; Double culvert, Brunswick, \$315.39; same, water works west abutment and staying up bridge, Medina township, \$642.80.

The following were not sold and will be readvertised: Franks culvert in Liverpool township, Geisinger culvert in Guilford township, Reese culvert in Granger township, Lee bridge in Guilford township and Cotter bridge in Lafayette township Aug. 19 is the date set for the selling of the above.

Continued on page four